

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Over the past 50 years, the United States has achieved significant increases in life expectancy and reductions in the incidence of injury, disability, and disease, with public health playing a leading role in these improvements in health status; and,

Whereas, The public health community in South Dakota is involved in a wide range of efforts to improve the health and well being of the state's citizens; and,

Whereas, The childhood immunization rate in South Dakota has steadily increased, assuring that the highest number of children ever are protected from vaccine-preventable diseases such as measles and diphtheria; and,

Whereas, 71,651 South Dakotans learned about their risk of diabetes and had a blood glucose screen as part of a statewide diabetes education and screening project in 2001 and 2002; and,

Whereas, More than 5,000 women have been screened for breast and cervical cancer through the state's *All Women Count!* Program; and,

Whereas, The state has instituted a statewide pre-event smallpox vaccination campaign to prepare for the possibility of a smallpox outbreak resulting from a terrorist act, vaccinating 582 public health and health care response team members; and,

Whereas, These items represent only a small sample of the effort undertaken by public health to prevent disease and promote the health of all South Dakotans; and,

Whereas, South Dakota will join the nation in celebrating "Getting in Shape for the Future: Healthy Eating and Active Living" for National Public Health Week April 7-13, 2003:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim April 7-13, 2003, as

PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK

in South Dakota, and I call upon all citizens to recognize public health's many contributions to healthier lives for all residents of the state.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-sixth Day of March in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.


M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State

